

# ENAAK

European Network of  
Art Associations and  
Kunstvereine

## Work Local — Connect Global Webinar November 24th, 4pm- 6pm (CET)

To register your participation, please follow this link:  
<https://tinyurl.com/28kbj8pd>

The Webinar will be held in English.

## PROGRAM

4:00 pm	Welcome! Moderator, Linda Soondra
4:10 pm	Camilla Fagerli, interim director, Tromsø Art Society, Norway
4:35 pm	Kate Strain, founding director, Kunstverein Aughtim, Ireland
5:00 pm	Short break
5:10 pm	Kathrin Bentele, director, Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen, Düsseldorf
5:35 pm	<i>Optic - mapping places, spaces and ideas through the process of making and being</i> Karin Bäckström, artist and co-founder of Optic Art Residency, Sweden

## The contributors



**Linda Soondra**, Project manager at Konsthantverkscentrum (KHVC), the largest crafts organisation in Sweden and represents over 800 active professional craft artists all over the country. In the last 20 years, she has been working with communication, language, brand strategy and product development. She has a BA, MA in English literature and Swedish.



Photo: Denis Mortell

**Kate Strain** is a curator of contemporary art. From 2016–2021 she was the artistic director of Grazer Kunstverein, Austria, where she curated and produced exhibitions, performances, symposia, publications, workshops and practice-based projects with over 50 contemporary visual artists. In close collaboration with artist Fiona Hallinan, Strain is co-founder of the Department of Ultimology, a research body dedicated to the study of that which is dead or dying. Working alongside Rachael Gilbourne, Strain makes up one half of the paired curatorial practice RGKSKSRG, commissioning, presenting and contextualising contemporary art. Strain previously worked as Acting Curator at Project Arts Centre, a multidisciplinary art centre in Dublin. She is a graduate of History and the History of Art and Architecture, Trinity College Dublin, holds an MA in Visual Arts Practice, IADT Dun Laoghaire, and participated in de Appel Curatorial Programme at de Appel arts centre, Amsterdam and Young Curators Residency Programme at Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin. Strain is a member of IKT, the international association of curators of contemporary art, and regularly lectures in curatorial practice, art history and contemporary art.

**Kunstverein Aughrim** is Ireland's first Kunstverein, a not-for-profit curatorial office and production agency for contemporary art projects, located on the ground floor of a townhouse in the village of Aughrim, County Wicklow. Founded in 2022 by Kate Strain, the mission of Kunstverein Aughrim is to develop curatorial collaborations with artists to support the artistic process of creating new work, and to bring audiences as close to the creative process as possible. At the core of Kunstverein Aughrim's ideology is a commitment to performativity, a belief in the necessity of art, and a desire to create the potential for extraordinary encounters with artistic practice.



**Kathrin Bentele** is a curator and writer and since October 2021 the director of the Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen, Düsseldorf. From 2019 to 2021, she was assistant curator at KW Institute for Contemporary Art. Previously, she was curatorial fellow at Artists Space in New York, assistant curator at Kunsthaus Glarus in Switzerland as well as an editor at the art book publisher JRP Ringier in Zurich. She writes for Texte zur Kunst, Artforum, and Mousse.

**The Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen**, Düsseldorf with currently 3,000 members belongs to the first generation of German art societies. Since its foundation in 1829, it has been a particular concern of the Kunstverein to give young or not yet canonised artists their first institutional solo debuts in Germany and thus to create a basis in terms of content and methodology for a more extensive examination of their work. In addition to at least four exhibitions a year and the release of publications, the Kunstverein presents an extensive programme of events. For its monographic and thematic exhibitions, the Kunstverein regularly supports the production of new works.



**Camilla Fagerli** (b. 1986, Vefsn) is interim director at Tromsø Kunstforening since July 2022, and prior to this she was a member of the board from 2016. Fagerli was educated at Nordland Art and Film School in Kabelvåg, Tromsø Academy of Contemporary Art, and at the Royal Danish Art Academy in Copenhagen. Between 2012 and 2016 she co-ran the artist-run space Kurant in Tromsø. Her practice most often involves working collaboratively and in collectives, and has, for the past few years, been driven by questions connected to how we can redefine societal and institutional structures in directions that better uphold the democratic values that we like to claim we have.

**Tromsø Kunstforening** is the oldest art institution in Northern Norway and is still a vital space for contemporary art in the region. Our program includes and combines internationally recognised and less established artists, with special attention to projects that are rooted in our region.

**Karin Bäckström** (b. 1983) is an artist based in Sandviken, Sweden. She is educated in fashion design at the University of Borås and in fine art at Konstfack in Stockholm and Valand in Gothenburg, and works as a freelance artist and project manager, as well as with exhibition production for Galleri Lars Palm. As an artist, Bäckström works together with Jon Perman (artist/musician) under the name [krig]. [krig] sets out to make a new world through music and art. It is built through merging processes, performance, textile, craft and electronic sounds into interactive spatial installations and acts of collective imagination.

**OPTIC** is an international residency between Sweden (Gävleborg) and Switzerland (Geneva). OPTIC is self-organized and artist run, created by [krig] (Karin Bäckström & Jon Perman), Abigail Janjic and Natalia Comandari. Our goal is to promote exchange between cultural actors from Switzerland and Sweden and to provide a pleasant and enriching environment to develop work.

